Message From the FIN Staff

I hope everyone had a peaceful and productive winter break. I look forward to FIN’s Atlanta trip this month and the other great activities we have planned. Although it is cold now, I’m sure many of you are already thinking about your spring break and summer plans. I thought it would be fun to include an old photo of myself from a past summer vacation. The photo I selected is from 1978 with my mom and two of my sisters (that’s me with the suitcase). Triet and I would enjoy hearing about where you traveled during the holidays and any special plans you have for the spring or summer. If my recruitment goes well, I’ll be in Jamaica again this summer with another group of IU students!

Triet Pham, Administrative Assistant

Dear FIN community! I am glad to have been part of the FIN community in 2014 For new residents, I am looking forward to seeing you and hope you will enjoy your new home. For returning residents, welcome back and may you relish what FIN will offer in the rest of the year! The photo to the left was taken last October in Seymour, Indiana where my roommate, my brother and I went to the German festival, called Oktoberfest. Feel free to reach out to me or Dr. G whenever you have questions about study or residence at IU.

Dr. John Galuska, Director

Inside this issue:

Upcoming activities in Spring 2015
1. Atlanta trip (MLK weekend)
2. Yearbook design
3. Vietnamese culture series

Highlights in Fall 2014
1. Oktoberfest in Foster Quad
2. Madelin: Cuban artist
3. Limo-to-Lotus festival

FIN Demographics
**Upcoming Activities**

**YEARBOOK DESIGN**

The FIN yearbook is intended to record the memories of our residents and events this year through photos. Before the fall semester ended, Shradhha Maharjan, FIN 2nd floor Resident Assistant (RA), led a call-out meeting for residents interested in joining the team to design FIN yearbook 2014-2015. In the last meeting, the committee developed ideas about the theme and format of the publication. Residents who would like to participate in this exciting project should not hesitate to talk to Shradhha, Triet Pham, or Dr. Galuska.

**VIETNAMESE CULTURE SERIES**

During the week following Spring Break, FIN will invite Van-Anh Vanessa Vo to Bloomington as special guest of Vietnamese Culture Series. FIN residents and other interested students will have chance to learn about another culture through food and music.

**VAN-ANH VANESSA VO’S BIO:** Van-Anh devotes her life-long passion and mastery of the dan tranh zither to the creation of distinctive music blended with a cultural essence that can only come from this unique Vietnamese instrument. Among her accomplishments are the 2009 Emmy® Award-winning soundtrack for the documentary “Bolinao 52”, which she co-composed and recorded, and the soundtrack for the Sundance best documentary and 2003 Academy Awards® nominee “Daughter from Danang”. Van-Anh also co-composed and recorded for the recent documentary “A Village Called Versailles”, winner of the New Orleans Film Festival Audience Award.

**ATLANTA TRIP - Jan 16-19, 2015**

For only $50 per person, a group of FIN residents will be going south to Atlanta, Georgia during Martin Luther King Jr. weekend right after the semester begins. The trip will feature an educational tour of National Civil Rights Museum with the goal of introducing the U.S. historical struggle for civic and political equality to international students, and a visit to the World of Coca-Cola, the top attraction in the city. Included in the trip is a group dining experience at a 5-star restaurant. In addition to mandatory group events, residents will be allowed to have their own time in Atlanta. This annual out-of-state trip is planned entirely by the FIN E-board officers, who were elected by our residents early fall semester 2014. The officers have been trying their best to represent the interests of FIN community.

**OKTOBERFEST IN FOSTER QUAD**

FIN was proud to bring the German spirit of Oktoberfest (an annual German culture festival) to Foster Quad with the co-sponsorship of the Global Village LLC and the organization by the IU German Club. Besides having chance to taste traditional German sausages, participants engaged in learning basic German phrases and culture. At the event, the German Club also introduced opportunities to study abroad in German-speaking countries.

**MADELIN PEREZ: CUBAN MURAL ARTIST**

FIN hosted events on campus with Madelin from October 7-28.

**LIMO-TO-LOTUS**

For the first time in FIN history, FIN residents had a chance to enjoy a Limousine ride to Lotus Festival, an annual international music festival in Bloomington. In addition to the Limousine ride, FIN residents were offered heavily discounted tickets to Lotus.

More events and activities will be announced soon! All ideas from FIN residents will be welcomed at any time. Please email tripham@indiana.edu if you have any idea!
Upcoming Activities

ATLANTA TRIP - Jan 16-19, 2015

For only $50 per person, a group of FIN residents will be going south to Atlanta, Georgia during Martin Luther King Jr. weekend right after the semester begins. The trip will feature an educational tour of National Civil Rights Museum with the goal of introducing the U.S. historical struggle for civic and political equality to international students, and a visit to the World of Coca Cola, the top attraction in the city. Included in the trip is a group dining experience at a 5-star restaurant. In addition to mandatory group events, residents will be allowed to have their own time in Atlanta. This annual out-of-state trip is planned entirely by the FIN E-board officers, who were elected by our residents early fall semester 2014. The officers have been trying their best to represent the interests of FIN community.

YEARBOOK DESIGN

The FIN yearbook is intended to record the memories of our residents and events this year through photos. Before the fall semester ended, Shraddha Maharjan, FIN 2nd floor Resident Assistant (RA), led a call-out meeting for residents interested in joining the team to design FIN yearbook 2014-2015. In the last meeting, the committee developed ideas about the theme and format of the publication. Residents who would like to participate in this exciting project should not hesitate to talk to Shraddha, Triet Pham, or Dr. Galuska.

VIETNAMESE CULTURE SERIES

During the week following Spring Break, FIN will invite Van-Anh Vanessa Vo to Bloomington as special guest of Vietnamese Culture Series. FIN residents and other interested students will have chance to learn about another culture through food and music.

VAN-ANH VANESSA VO’S BIO: Van-Anh devotes her life-long passion and mastery of the dan tranh zither to the creation of distinctive music blended with a cultural essence that can only come from this unique Vietnamese instrument. Among her accomplishments are the 2009 Emmy® Award-winning soundtrack for the documentary “Bolinao 52”, which she co-composed and recorded, and the soundtrack for the Sundance best documentary and 2003 Academy Awards® nominee “Daughter from Danang”. Van-Anh also co-composed and recorded for the recent documentary “A Village Called Versailles”, winner of the New Orleans Film Festival Audience Award.

More events and activities will be announced soon! All ideas from FIN residents will be welcomed at any time. Please email tripham@indiana.edu if you have any idea!

OKTOBERFEST IN FOSTER QUAD

FIN was proud to bring the German spirit of Oktoberfest (an annual German culture festival) to Foster Quad with the co-sponsorship of the Global Village LLC and the organization by the IU German Club. Besides having chance to taste traditional German sausages, participants engaged in learning basic German phrases and culture. At the event, the German Club also introduced opportunities to study abroad in German-speaking countries.

MADELIN PEREZ: CUBAN MURAL ARTIST

FIN hosted events on campus with Madelin from October 7-28.

LIMO-TO-LOTUS

For the first time in FIN history, FIN residents had a chance to enjoy a Limousine ride to Lotus Festival, an annual international music festival in Bloomington. In addition to the Limousine ride, FIN residents were offered heavily discounted tickets to Lotus.
The charts above are based on information from the self-reported survey that residents living in FIN completed in Fall 2014.

Foster International LLC
Foster-Shea
1000 N. Fee Lane
Bloomington, IN 47406
fin.indiana.edu